

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 NAIROB 05205 210710Z

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3561

S E C R E T NAIROBI 5205

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM DAVIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (DAVIS, NATHANIEL) SO UR

SUBJECT: PERSONAL MESSAGE

1. I HAVE YOUR MESSAGE ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE IN SOMALIA. MY RESPONSE WAS IN ANSWER TO A SPECIFIC QUESTION ON THAT SUBJECT. I AM NOT SURE I CAN ALTOGETHER AVOID COMMENT WHEN QUESTIONED, AS AIRPORT PRESS QUESTIONING IS VIRTUALLY UNIVERSAL PRACTICE IN AFRICA. I AM ADVISED THAT REFUSAL TO MEET WITH THE PRESS IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES IS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. IN ANY CASE, I SHALL DO MY BEST TO AVOID COMMENT ALTOGETHER, AND MINIMIZE IT WHEN UNAVOIDABLE.

2. MY ALLUSION TO THE FACTS WAS A SIMPLE REFERENCE TO SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S PUBLIC STATEMENT. I AVOIDED ACTION USING THE WORD "BASE," BECAUSE OF THE SEMANTIC CONTROVERSY SURROUNDING THAT QUESTION, BUT THAT ELEMENT WAS LOST IN THE PRESS REPORTING -- NOT ALWAYS THE WORLD'S MOST SOPHISTICATED. MARSHALL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 21 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Authority: woolflhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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